

# THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

## DUPLICATE

TO BE FORWARDED TO IMMIGRATION  
AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE FOR  
FILING WITH THE CLERK OF COURT

**CERTIFICATE OF**



No. OM-7130

**NATURALIZATION**

Petition No. SE-99

Personal description of holder as of date of naturalization: Age 34 years; sex Male;  
complexion Ruddy; color of eyes Grey; color of hair Brown; height 5 feet 6 inches;  
weight 145 pounds; visible distinctive marks apex 1st thumb amputated, small finger 1st hand  
marital status Single; former nationality German scarred

I hereby certify that my description as above given is true.



Herman John Bottcher  
(Complete and true signature of holder)

Be it known that Herman John Bottcher  
then residing at 239 Bancroft Street, San Francisco, California  
petitioned to be admitted a citizen of the United States of America, which petition was heard by  
me on 31st December, 1943 at Hq Base A, USASOS, APO 928;  
and having found that the petitioner intends to reside permanently in the United States, had in  
all other respects complied with the applicable provisions of the Naturalization Laws of the United States,  
and was entitled to be admitted, I thereupon ordered that the petitioner be admitted as a citizen of  
the United States of America.

Now Therefore, in pursuance of the authority contained in Section  
702 of the Nationality Act of 1940, as amended, this Certificate of  
Naturalization is issued this 31st day of December  
in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and forty three  
and the seal of the Department of Justice affixed pursuant to statute.  
By direction of the Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization.

[Signature]

Designated Representative  
of the Immigration and Naturalization Service

**DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

**DUPLICATE**  
(To be forwarded direct to the Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization for filing with the Clerk of Court)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE

Series **SE**  
No. **99**

**PETITION FOR NATURALIZATION**

Form N-411—Edition of (6/15/42)

(Filed under section 702, Nationality Act of 1940, as amended by Act of March 27, 1942, Public Law 507, 77th Congress)

To the Honorable the Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization:

This petition for naturalization, hereby made and filed in duplicate, respectfully shows:

- Herman John Fredrick Bottcher**  
(Full, true, and correct name of petitioner, without abbreviation)
- (1) My full, true, and correct name is **Herman John Fredrick Bottcher**  
(Full, true, and correct name of petitioner, without abbreviation)
- (2) My place of residence at the time of my enlistment or induction into the military or naval forces of the United States was **239 Remond Street San Francisco SF California**  
(Number, street, city or town, county, state)
- (3) I was born on **13 - 1909** in **Landsberg Germany**  
(Month, day, year, city or town, county, district, province, or state, country)
- (4) My personal description is: Age **34** years; sex **Male**; color **White**; complexion **Ruddy**; color of eyes **Gray**; color of hair **Brown**; height **5** feet **6** inches; weight **145** pounds; visible distinctive marks **Apex of left thumb amputated, small finger left**; present nationality **German**  
(Age, sex, color, complexion, color of eyes, color of hair, height, weight, pounds, visible distinctive marks, present nationality)
- (5) I am **no** married; the name of my wife or husband **no**  
(Married, name of wife or husband)
- (6) I have **no** children.
- (7) I emigrated to the United States, its Territories, or its possessions, from **Landsberg Germany**  
(City or town, state)
- (8) My lawful admission to the United States, its Territories, or its possessions, was at **San Francisco, Calif.**  
(City or town, state)  
under the name of **Herman John Fredrick Bottcher**  
on **November 21 1930**, on the **Makura**  
(Month, day, year, name of vessel or other means of conveyance)
- (9) I am now serving honorably in the military or naval forces of the United States, as certified to under oath by the affidavits forming a part hereof of two citizen witnesses, members of the military or naval forces of the United States, of noncommissioned or warrant officer grade or rating or higher, or by a duly authenticated copy, forming a part hereof, of the records of the executive department having custody of the records of my service.  
**0-888451**  
My Army or Navy Serial No. is **0-888451**
- (10) I am not, and have not been for the period of at least 10 years immediately preceding the date of this petition, an anarchist; nor a believer in the unlawful damage, injury, or destruction of property, or sabotage; nor a disbeliever in or opposed to organized government; nor a member of or affiliated with any organization or body of persons teaching disbelief in or opposition to organized government. I am attached to the principles of the Constitution of the United States and well disposed to the good order and happiness of the United States. It is my intention in good faith to become a citizen of the United States, and to reside permanently therein.
- (11) Submitted herewith as a part of this, my petition for naturalization, are the affidavits of at least two verifying witnesses required by law.
- (12) Wherefore, I, petitioner for naturalization, pray that I may be admitted a citizen of the United States of America, that my name be changed to **Herman John Bottcher**, and that a certificate of naturalization be issued to me.
- (13) I, aforesaid petitioner, do swear (affirm) that I know the contents of this petition for naturalization subscribed by me, that the same are true to the best of my own knowledge, except as to matters therein stated to be alleged upon information and belief, and that as to those matters I believe them to be true, and that this petition is signed by me with my full, true name: So help me God.

**Herman John Fredrick Bottcher**  
(Full, true, and correct signature of petitioner, without abbreviation)

**AFFIDAVIT OF WITNESSES AND CERTIFICATE OF PETITIONER'S SERVICE**

The following witnesses, each being severally, duly, and respectively sworn, depose and say:

My name is **Gordon A. Timmerman** I am now serving as **M/Sgt 127th Inf. Serv. Co APO 32**  
(Name of witness, rank and organization)

My name is **Sylvester M. Pawlowski** I am now serving as **Sgt. 127th Inf. Co, A**  
(Name of witness, rank and organization)

I am a citizen of the United States of America; I personally know the petitioner named in this petition for naturalization to be a person of good moral character, attached to the principles of the Constitution of the United States, and well disposed to the good order and happiness of the United States, and that he is now serving honorably, without the jurisdiction of any naturalization court, in the military or naval forces of the United States as **Captain**

In **127th Inf. Co A**, under Serial No. **0-888451**, as shown by official service records.  
(Rank, name of witness, signature of witness, rank and organization)

Sworn to before me, a representative of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, by the above-named petitioner and witnesses at **Hq Base A, USASOS, APO 928**

**31st** day of **December**, not within the jurisdiction of a naturalization court, in the respective forms of oath shown in said petition and affidavit, this **31st** day of **December**, Anno Domini 19**43**

I certify that the records of the Immigration and Naturalization Service show the lawful admission of the petitioner to the United States, its Territories, or its possessions, as alleged by him in this petition. I further certify that the petitioner and witnesses named herein appeared before and were examined by me prior to the filing of this petition.

**W. H. Murrell**  
(Signature of representative of the Immigration and Naturalization Service)

**OATH OF RENUNCIATION AND ALLEGIANCE**

I hereby declare, on oath, that I absolutely and entirely renounce and abjure all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign prince, potentate, state, or sovereignty of whom or which I have heretofore been a subject or citizen; that I will support and defend the Constitution and laws of the United States of America against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; and that I take this obligation freely without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion: So help me God. In acknowledgment whereof I have hereunto affixed my signature.

**Herman John Bottcher**  
(Signature of petitioner)

Upon consideration of the foregoing petition for naturalization, including the affidavit of petitioner's verifying witnesses and the official evidence of his service in the military or naval forces of the United States, and said petitioner having taken the required oath of renunciation and allegiance before me, it is hereby ordered that the said petitioner be, and he hereby is, admitted to become a citizen of the United States of America, on this **31st** day of **December**, Anno Domini 19**43**, at **Hq Base A, USASOS, APO 928** (and that his name be changed to **Herman John Bottcher**)

Certificate No. **07130** issued this **31st** day of **December**, Anno Domini 19**43**

**W. H. Murrell**  
(Signature of representative of the Immigration and Naturalization Service)



# *National Archives and Records Administration*

## **PACIFIC REGION**

1000 COMMODORE DRIVE

SAN BRUNO, CALIFORNIA 94066-2350

<http://www.archives.gov/pacific/san-francisco/index.html>

Stephen T. Martin

December 2, 2010

Dear Mr. Martin,

As requested, please find enclosed copies of the following items:

US District Court for the Northern District of California, San Francisco:

Overseas Military Petitions for Naturalization

- No. OM-7130

Your total copying fee is \$7.50 per naturalization<sup>n</sup> petition. A receipt is enclosed for your money order payment submitted with your request.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

*Marisa Louie*

Marisa Louie

[marisa.louie@nara.gov](mailto:marisa.louie@nara.gov)

STEPHEN T. MARTIN

6 December 2010

Lee Allen  
1743 Oak Lane  
Provo, Utah 84601

Dear Lee:

Another fantastic piece of news and information. Imagine that- a year to the day later Herman would be killed in a fire fight. I am going to pass this naturalization record on to those ALB folks in NYC to put an end to the rumors and mystery on the subject: Capt Herman J. Bottcher was a United States Citizen and PROUD. Period.

I want to also let you know that I have been finagling to get some COLOR copies of Herman's DSC citations and telegram to his aunt here on Ramsell Street. I want to use these for the article I hope to complete for a SF history and museum journal.

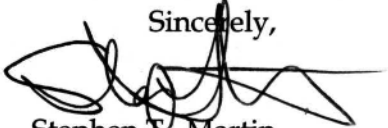
I just finished reading "Gentle Knight" a biography of Gen. Harding. Nice read and Filled with information on a very well liked and intelligent man. Very interesting book. I was able to learn a few things. I also ran across a 1950's Harpers Magazine article on General Willoughby. Quite a charecter. I will pass this along as well. There are actually some memos documents in Herman's record signed by Willoughby.

Lee wishing you and your family the best for this Christmas season and happy New Year.

Be talking to you soon.

Thanks again and best regards

Sincerely,



Stephen T. Martin